

be that compensation is concomitantly effected by greater exposure to drying winds and lower temperatures.

Whatever the reasons for the low success rate of the so-called natural method of rearing, one fact strikes me rather forcibly; namely, that in nature the losses accompanying the transition from ovum to imago are, on average, close to 100%. It is manifestly obvious that if we, as rearers of butterflies and moths, need to start with one hundred eggs to sustain a reasonable probability of ending up with a pair of adult insects, which may not even be of different sexes, most of us would think twice before giving the time and energy to this facet of our hobby. Nature is indeed wonderful but it doesn't always answer to our needs.

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**TRIAENODES REUTERI MCLACHLAN IN KENT (TRICHOPTERA: LEPTOCERIDAE).** — During the British Entomological Society field meeting at Higham Canal in N.W. Kent on 21.6.75 I collected a number of caddis-flies at light which I submitted to P. C. Barnard at the British Museum for identification. Amongst this material he found 1 ♀ *Trianodes* sp. which he could only tentatively name *simulans* Tjeder as the ♀♀ of this genus were difficult to identify. Since then, he has been able to characterise the ♀ genitalia of *simulans* and *reuteri* McLachlan (*Ent. Gaz.* 29: 244-246). On re-examining the genitalia of my specimen I was able to identify it positively as *reuteri* McLachlan. The locality fits in well with its known preference for brackish water. I has been found, so far, in Britain only from Spurn Head, Yorkshire in 1963 and Rainham, Essex in 1976. — S. E. Whitebread, Hofackerstr. 7, CH-4132 Muttenz, Switzerland.

**SCARCE PROMINENT (ODONTOSIA CARMELITA ESP.) AT EPSOM DOWNS, SURREY.** — On the night of 19th May 1979 I was very pleased to find a single specimen of this fine member of the *Notodontidae* in my garden m.v. trap. It was a clear, cool, starry night with a south westerly breeze.

*O. carmelita* has, according to South, been reported from “. . . the Weybridge district, Dorking and Haslemere, in Surrey . . .” and “certainly appears to be distinctly local”. Its occurrence here is particularly encouraging since birch trees are particularly numerous in the locality and it may well breed at Epsom Downs if circumstances favour this.

On 13th May I boxed a typical spring brood specimen of the rather local Purple Thorn (*Selenia tetralunaria* Hufn.) which had alighted upon my garden fence whilst the light trap was in operation.

As a further note, the list of Prominents I have taken so far this spring includes the Swallow Prominent (*Pheosia tremula* Clerck), the Coxcomb Prominent (*Lophopteryx capucina* L.) and the Iron Prominent (*Notodonta dromedarius* L.) — M. J. SYMES, 2 Montrouge Crescent, Epsom, Surrey, KT17 3NY.